

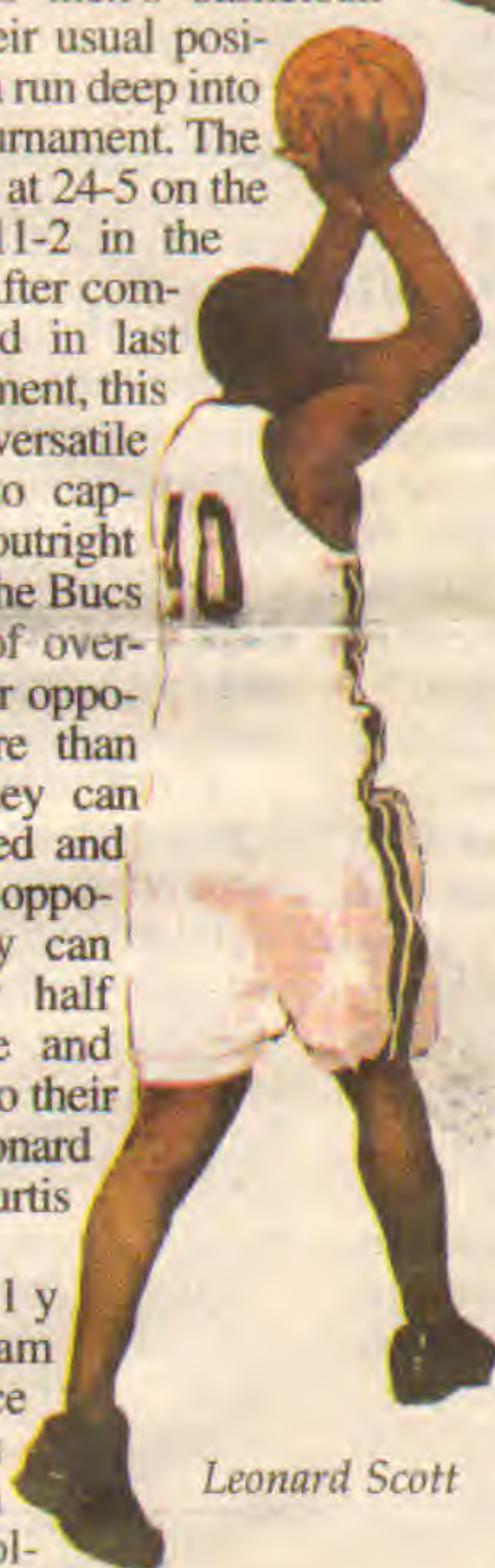
“Let’s Get It On, Matey!”

Men look to put it all together

By Barret Smith
Sports Writer

It's that time of year again and the Bucs men's basketball team is in their usual position to make a run deep into the ACCC tournament. The Bucs come in at 24-5 on the season and 11-2 in the conference. After coming in second in last year's tournament, this year's more versatile team looks to capture the title outright this season. The Bucs are capable of overwhelming their opponents in more than one way. They can use their speed and outrun their opponents or they can set up their half court offense and feed the ball to their big men Leonard Scott and Curtis Parker.

Heavily recruited team leader Tarrance Crump leads the team in scoring followed by sopho-



Leonard Scott

more Leonard Scott and freshman Quinn Beckwith. This Bucs' roster

also includes sharpshooters Keith Williamson, Clifton Douglas and freshman Casey Holland who can all hit the big shot at any given time.

The Bucs have plenty of playmakers although they will have to do without established and heavily recruited big man Sam Mauldin who is currently rehabilitating from an ACL tear and is out for the remainder of the season. When asked about Mauldin's status next year Coach Barry Mohun said "Sam is a hard worker and most of the schools recruiting him remain interested and I'm sure they will be getting regular updates from his doctors."

As stated by Keith Williamson earlier in the season, the Bucs' goal was to peak come playoff time and it looks as if the team may be doing that, although a last-game loss to Lawson State at home put them at the number-

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Women taking 'mo' into tourney

By Barret Smith
Sports Writer

It's time for final exams only these exams won't be taken in a classroom or even with a pencil and paper.

These tests will take place at The Umphrey Center, and they started Sunday, March 6.

The Shelton State Lady Bucs have more than proven they are ready for the challenge they will face in the Alabama Community College Conference playoffs this week. Not only are the Bucs hosting the tournament, they are rolling in with a 25-3 record on the season.

The Bucs also hold the best record in the North division at 10-2 giving them the number one seed in the tournament and also allowing them a first round bye. The Bucs are coming in ranked 17th in the nation with many players also ranked nationally in multiple categories. The most impressive Buc is probably Kiana Robinson who is currently

24th in the nation in points per game at 17 and 7th in the nation in assists at 6.4 per game. Kiana is also currently fielding offers from a number of Division 1 NCAA schools including Alabama, Syracuse, North Carolina, and Oklahoma. Bucs Coach Madonna Thompson has said "she is the most competitive person I have ever been around and I know when the game is on the line she wants the ball in her hands."

The Bucs also have a great outside presence in Kristina Gardner and Christy Ayers who are 17th and 24th nationally in three-point percentage. Christie Ayers also ranks close to the top in the free throw and steals categories.

Any team who is expected to run into the Bucs in the tournament should expect a very effective

Kiana Robinson



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For the first time ever, the men's and women's state basketball tournaments are held in one place—ours! March 6-13

Inside
The Courier

- Men's and Women's tourney brackets... page 4-5
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- And much more!



Dual enrollment helps transition to college

Students within the Tuscaloosa city and county school systems will now have even more opportunities to get a jump start on their college career.

Dr. Rick Rogers, president of Shelton State Community College, Dr. Joyce Levey, superintendent of Tuscaloosa City Schools, and Dr. Frank Constanzo, superintendent of Tuscaloosa County Schools, announced today that area students will have the opportunity to benefit from expanded options within the dual enrollment/dual credit and accelerated high school programs.

Rogers, Levey and Constanzo also made reference to the renewed interest in, support of and cooperation among their respective institutions for these programs.

Through the dual enrollment/dual credit and accelerated high school programs, students have the opportunity to take college courses on the Shelton State campus while still in high school.

Because Shelton State is a comprehensive community college, it has the unique opportunity to offer broad student access to academic and career technical programs.

These programs provide opportunities for all students, regardless of their career interest. Shelton State offers over 25 different career technical programs which can lead to an Associate in Applied Science degree or certificate and can unlock early opportunities for employment in today's technically demanding workplace.

Shelton State is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and

Schools, so students planning to attend a four year institution may take courses that will ultimately transfer and count towards their degree.

The statewide transfer articulation system makes planning a degree program simple for these first time college students.

These expanded options allow all students to reap the benefits of the dual enrollment / dual credit and accelerated high school programs regardless of their chosen career path.

Dual enrollment/dual credit and accelerated high school programs can exponentially increase a student's chance of a smooth transition from high school to college.

"We here at Shelton State have always believed that our number one job is to make a difference in the lives of the students that we touch, and through the cooperation, commitment and support of the Tuscaloosa city and county school systems we will be able to make a difference to those students who may not have been aware of all of their opportunities," said Rogers.

Eligible students within the Tuscaloosa city and county school systems will soon receive more information about these programs in their printed class schedules for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Students are encouraged to speak with their high school counselor about their plans to participate in the dual enrollment/dual credit and/or accelerated high school programs.

For more information on these programs at Shelton State, please contact Byron Abston at 205/391-2388.

SSCC Circle K recognized at district convention

Members of the Shelton State Community College Circle K attended the annual Alabama District Convention in Opelika, the last weekend in February.

Due to the leadership of President Brittney Cockrell, the club brought home 3 awards, the first time the chapter has been recognized. The Awards presented included: Most

Improved Club, Ruby Award for Service and the Distinguished President Award were presented to Brittney Cockrell.

The Ruby Award is only presented to students who have contributed 120-179 hours of service.

Faculty advisor to the group is Deborah J. Grimes, Director of Library Services at Shelton State.



ShelTalk *Grand Theft...Auto?*

By AnTonio Nevels

Dec. 25, 1989 was one of the most significant dates in this writer's life.

That was the day he received his first video game system and, more importantly, his first videogame.

It was Super Mario Bros., a game that revolutionized videogames forever.

Funny how things have changed aren't they?

Oct. 26, 2004 was another significant date. This game, too, "revolutionized" the videogame industry but for all the wrong reasons.

Andrew Reiner of Game Informer said, "It's something that I believe will define a generation and will forever change the way we look at videogames."

The game is none other than Rockstar's pride and joy, Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas.

Reiner was correct in his assessment of the game, but some aren't delighted with that.

While San Andreas is arguably the best videogame known to man, it has brought about a cloud of controversy that threatens to change our very culture.

In 2003, teenager Devin Thompson shot and killed two Fayette police officers and a dispatcher.

Thompson's attorney claims that the videogame, Grand Theft Auto, caused him

to kill the officers.

Most gamers scoff at that notion but others disagree.

"I have worked at Bryce in the past and some of the patients will tell you that the games have a direct impact on them. They'll go as far as saying that they've heard voices from the games tell them to do something violent," said nursing instructor Kim Smith.

One student disagreed by saying, "They shouldn't blame it on something when it's really their problem."

Mark Raines, who teaches TV Production for the Tuscaloosa Center of Technology and former ABC 33/40 anchor, saw violence in the media on a regular basis. "It leaves teenagers desensitized to violence. Teenagers think that it's commonplace to steal cars, or shoot police, or hire prostitutes," said Raines. (All of which are present in Grand Theft Auto.)

So why are some children influenced by the game while others aren't, keeping in mind that this game has sold well over 40 million copies.

"Violence begets violence, however, we still have a choice in the decision we make," said one person.

She also says that more than anything it demonstrates a lack of parent guidance and that parent should teach their children about those matters.

Dr. Allen Mallory, who



AnTonio Nevels is a sophomore at Shelton State.

teaches Human Growth & Development, believes that in some instances parents are really oblivious to what their children may be playing.

"I do think that there are some parents who aren't aware of it, but most probably don't care either."

Attorney Jack Thompson is pressing for a bill that would prevent individuals under age 18 from buying or renting certain videogames.

While most can understand his position considering that three officers were murdered, that could be taking it to extreme measures.

I myself have been playing videogames for over 15 years and have never had an impulse to commit a violent act.

Shelton State Courier

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The Shelton State Courier is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working

with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The Courier is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

Women's Division I Basketball

SSCC

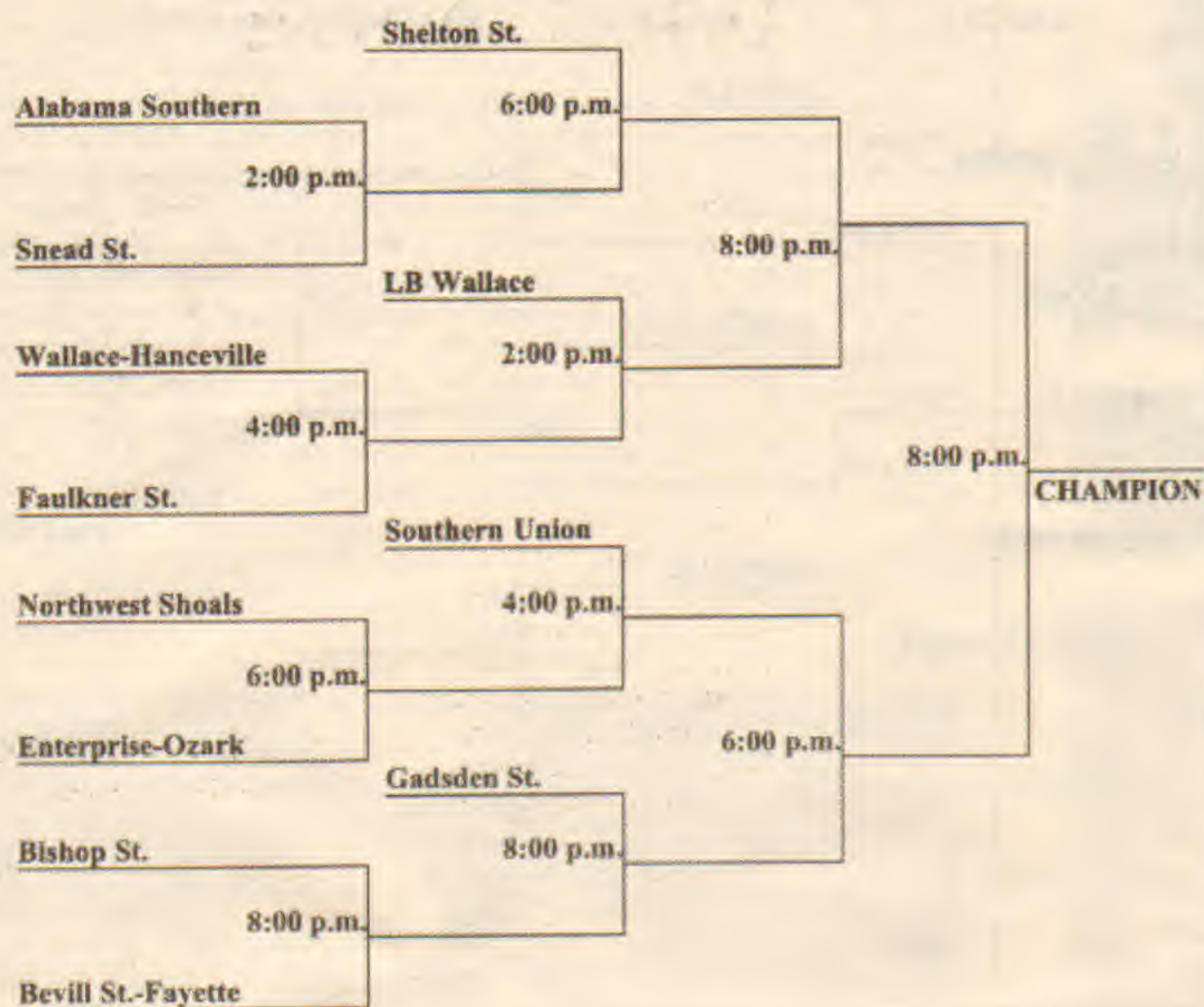
March 6-9

MARCH 6

MARCH 7

MARCH 8

MARCH 9

Women's
From Page 1

tive run and gun offense that has been effective in dispatching opponents all season long.

Their outside shooting and ability to outrun opponents makes up for their lack of size and strength down low, although the Bucs post players have shown improvement as of late with Amelia Toole and Phenecia West starting to get more and more physical as the season has gone on.

This inside game will be severely tested, though, should the Bucs meet Wallace-Hanceville as expected in the semi-finals on March 8.

Wallace-Hanceville is the only team to have beaten the Lady Bucs at home this season, using a much stronger inside game in Alabama recruit Harriet Barnes and Ashley Bowen to overpower the Bucs inside game although this feat should be hard to repeat in the Umphrey Center.

For the Bucs this tournament means even more than being champions in the state of Alabama, as the winner gets

a birth in the NJCC national tournament where scouts from virtually every school in the country will be waiting to see which Bucs can make it at the next level.

Several Bucs are already fielding offers namely Kiana Robinson, considered one of the top juco recruits in the nation.

Christy Ayers is also receiving attention from a number of schools.

Last Thursday night was sophomore night and the sophomores went out on a good note thrashing Lawson State 80-45 at home.

The Bucs seemed somewhat uninspired early in the game with the exception of freshman guard Melody Hudson of Hueytown who led the Bucs in scoring with 25 points (a season high).

Hudson came off the bench to challenge every loose ball and she did a great job of disrupting the Lawson State offense.

In the second half the rest of the team followed suit to put Lawson away and end the season on a good note heading into the tournament as the number one seed in the North.



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Men's From Page 1

two seed for the tournament. Freshman Jason Elmore did say, "We need to work harder on defense and hope everyone is healthy for the tournament."

That shouldn't be much of a problem as the Bucs are hosting the tournament and need little motivation as they do not want to be runner-up again this year.

The Bucs will be the number one seed coming out of the North and will have a first round bye so they should have plenty of rest and time to get everyone healthy for their second round game.

The Shelton State basketball team had a major letdown Thursday night playing with little to no intensity causing them to lose to Lawson State at home 90-83. This was the Bucs first loss at home this season and they trailed by as many as 20 points in the second half.

The Bucs would eventually cut the lead to five but they would get no closer. Marcus Miles led the Bucs in scoring with 17 followed by Quinn Beckwith and Leonard Scott each with 15 points. This was the final regular season game and the loss bumps the Bucs from a one seed to a two seed entering the tournament on Thursday.

Buc players not the only good ones in town



Natalie Nelson (#23) of Southern Union is described as "very athletic" by her coach

There is a wealth of basketball talent in town from March 6-12 for the state tournament, and it's not all wearing the hunter green and white of the Buccaneers.

On the women's side, fans are able to see up close the kind of athleticism that has begun to change the viewpoint of the casual fan towards the women's game. Whirling drives to the basket and long-range bombing are the norm when the women mix it up—just like the men.

Players such as Ashley Berkin and Crystal Cook of Lurleen B. Wallace will catch your eye with their size and athleticism.

Both women are more than 6-feet tall and weigh nearly 200 pounds, but will steal the ball as well as

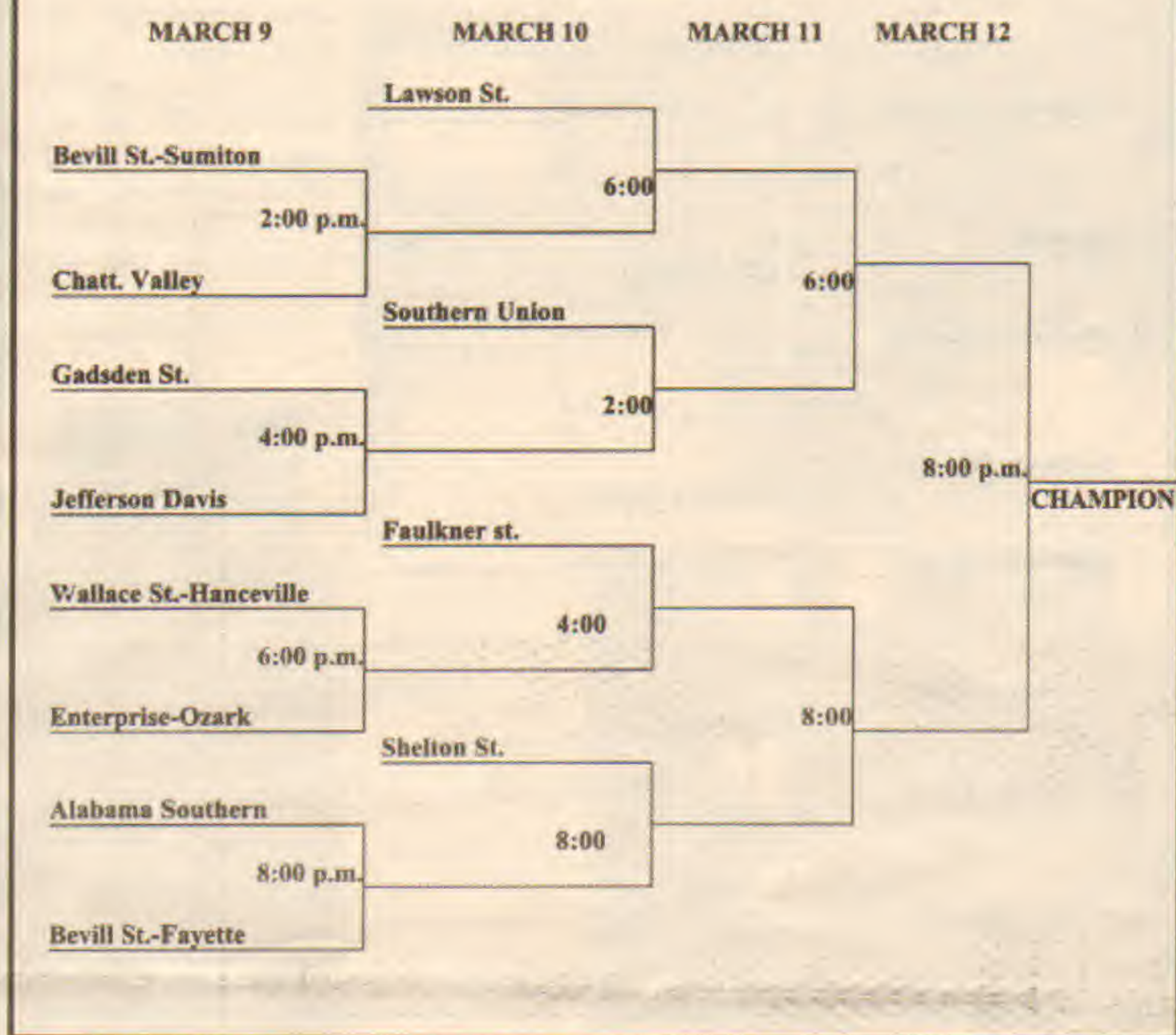
rebound and average almost 10 points a game. Another 6-footer is Terren Williams of Beville State, who has 14 double-doubles and is known to be a great defensive player.

Other stars to watch for include Shalina Taylor of Northwest-Shoals who is described by her coach as a "great leaper."

Heather George of Gadsden State is the best point guard that team has ever had. She has been in the top-10 in assists in both her freshman and sophomore years.

Besides Lawson State, which has given the Bucs fits, the men's side has such stellar players as DeShawn Danzey, who at 6'6" plays both forward and guard for Southern Union, leading the conference in both points and rebounds.

Men's Division I Basketball SSCC March 9-12



Shelton State

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Roderick George to present 'Terrific Tuesday'

On March 8 at 1 p.m. in the Alabama Power Foundation Recital Hall Dr. Roderick George will present a "Terrific Tuesday" recital.

Tenor Roderick George, Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Montevallo, maintains an active and varied performance career appearing frequently as an orchestral soloist, recitalist, and in principal and supporting roles of opera, operetta, and music theater.

As a soloist, he has performed a range of works including *Carmina Burana*, *Elijah*, *Bach's Magnificat*, *Haydn's Missa Sanctae Caeciliae*, *Bruckner's Te Deum*, *Schubert's Stabat Mater*, *Dubois' Seven Last Words*, and *Handel's Messiah and Israel in Egypt*.

Previously on the faculty at Stillman College, he holds baccalaureate degrees in music and English from Stillman, the M.M. in Opera and Music Theater from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, and the D.M. in Voice Performance from Florida State University. He received additional training in opera as an apprentice artist with Des Moines Metro Opera and was one of twelve voice teachers nationwide to participate in the 2004 NATS Intern Program at Colorado State University. Dr. George is listed in the 2004 Edition of Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

The 1:00 P.M. performances are free and open to the public, however, seating is limited.



Shelton State participated in the state NATS vocal auditions on Feb. 18-19. Representing the college were (Front L-R) Dr. Mark Brown, Eryn Davis, Micklynn Kannapel, (Back L-R) Julia Ayers, Brittany Norris, Katie Besant, Glinda Blackshear, Susan Goode, Lauren Howell and Barry Brown. Syble Coats also participated in the event. Eryn Davis won the musical theatre category. Shelton was the only two-year college represented among the 275 entrants.



Photo/Brandon Lovett

Dr. Allen Mallory, education instructor at the college, brought the house down with his hilarious comedy/child-care education routine. Mallory performed as part of a fundraising program of the Alumni Association. Mallory has packed out comedy clubs throughout the country, so filling up the Alabama Power Foundation Recital Hall on March 3 was no problem. Proceeds went to the association's scholarships for adult students.



Commencement at Flowerhill, spring 2004

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Local 'soldiers' honored at Fredd ceremony



The Westlaw Middle School Choir was part of the entertainment at the Fredd campus Black History Month program on Feb. 25. Director Levert Hedgemon sang one number and led the choir in two stirring others. The presentation of colors was made by the Central High JROTC.



Joseph Mallisham, another of the unsung heroes from the 1960's Civil Rights movement, was the first African American to serve on the Tuscaloosa County Commission. Among other accomplishments, he served as a bodyguard for civil rights movement leaders, and was honored by The University of Alabama June of 2004.



Edwards congratulates L.V. Hall who led devotions at the beginning of the Tuscaloosa Citizen's for Action Committee meetings in the 60's. He also served as treasurer of the organization.



Carolyn Edwards of Fredd presents Dashiya Williams an award honoring her grandmother Stella Loggins, one of the "foot soldiers" and "calming influences" of the local civil rights movement.



Carolyn Edwards presents Minnie Thomas Brown with an award during Black History Month ceremonies. Brown served as secretary of the Tuscaloosa Citizen's for Action Committee in the 60's.

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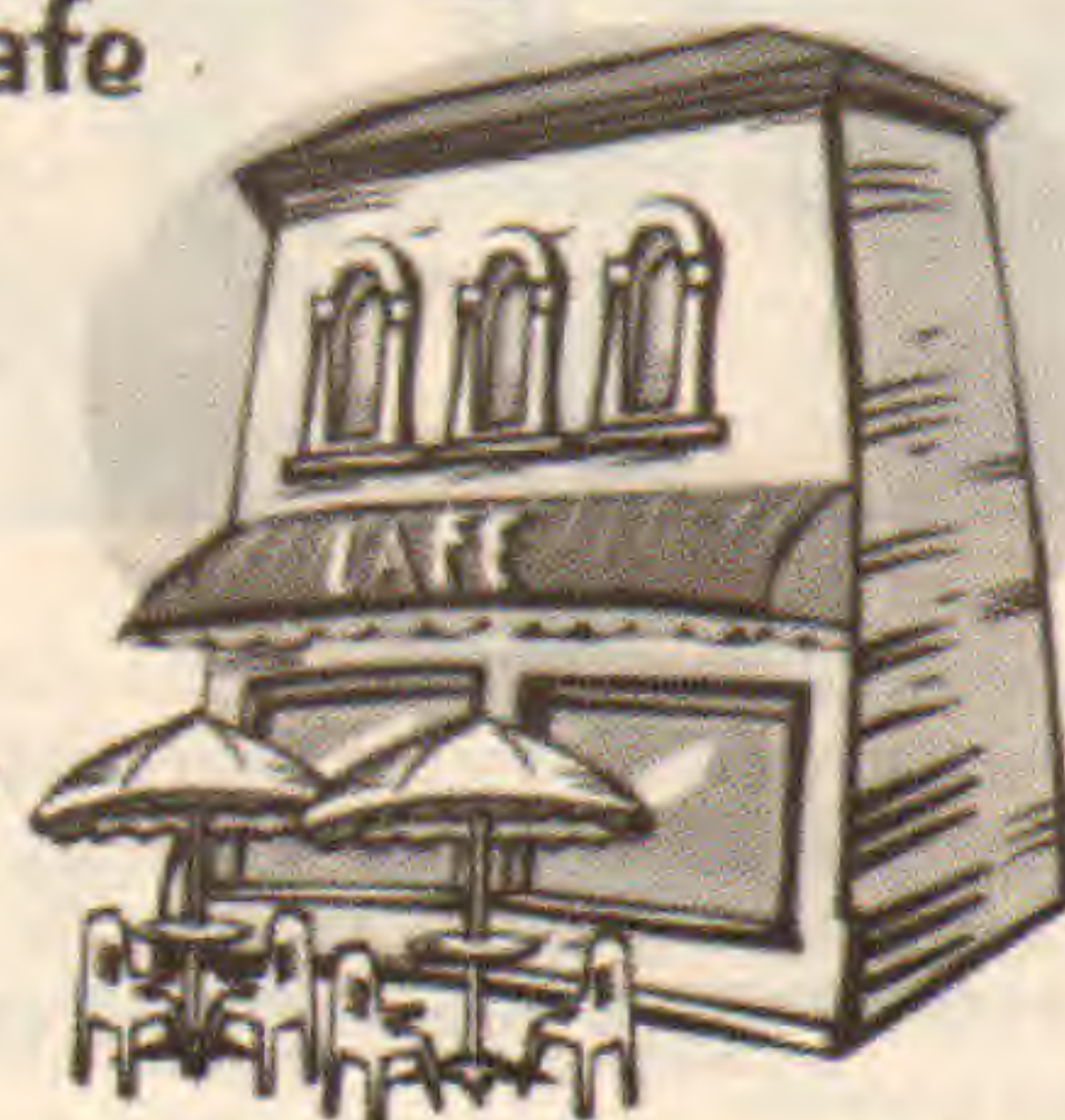
7:00-9:00

Friday Night Music 8:00-10:00

March 11th David Pollard

March 18th Doobie

"Doghouse" Wilson



Ball teams struggling to get ahead

By **Matt Celozzi**
Sports Writer

Over the course of a baseball season, the teams that play quality non-conference opponents early usually finish stronger. Coach Sprowl and the Bucs have held up their end of the bargain and are hoping it will pay off later this season. After a grueling run of 12 games that left the team 4-8, Shelton is ready to begin its league schedule. According to Coach Sprowl, many questions have been answered and the team is well-prepared to face their conference foes.

On Thursday, the Bucs started things off against Chattahoochee Valley. Pitcher Jared Bradford turned in a good performance but timely hitting was hard to come by according to Coach Bobby Sprowl.

"We probably hit balls harder than we have all year but it seemed like it was always right at somebody." The Bucs ended up with a tough 3-2 loss. "It was still a good opening game for us in the conference."

The Shelton State ladies softball team (6-6) is preparing to open conference play this week. But the Lady Bucs have been doing some fine-tuning against tough teams to get ready for their league schedule. Last weekend, Coach Mitchell and the

Bucs headed down to Panama City for the Gulf Coast Tournament. In four games Shelton finished the weekend 2 and 2, belting an impressive 9 home runs, which topped the total of 2 that they hit all of last season. The Lady Bucs beat Lake City twice, 9-6 and 5-1 respectively, while dropping games to Tallahassee and Southern Union, both quality teams.

On Thursday, Shelton split a pair with rivals Beville-Sumiton, dropping the first 3-1 but bouncing back in the second with a 6-5 extra inning victory.

The team is optimistic about the rest of the season. Freshman Susie Smith and sophomore Becky Scollard have been coming on offensively and freshman pitcher Sarah Sutton is a perfect 2-0 for the Bucs.

Coach Mitchell says the team is still trying to find its identity. "It seems like one day our offense is clicking but defensively we struggle, and the next day it's the opposite. If we can get both aspects of our game together, we'll be dangerous come tournament time."

On Friday, the Lady Bucs will open league play against Southern Union at 1 p.m. Coach Mitchell and the team are looking forward to a good turnout and your continued support throughout the season.

Carolyn Beckman of student services was one of the volunteer blood donors who made the recent blood drive at Shelton State a success on Feb. 23. More than 61 faculty, staff or students presented themselves for donation. The goal of 35 pints was exceeded when 44 were actually collected.



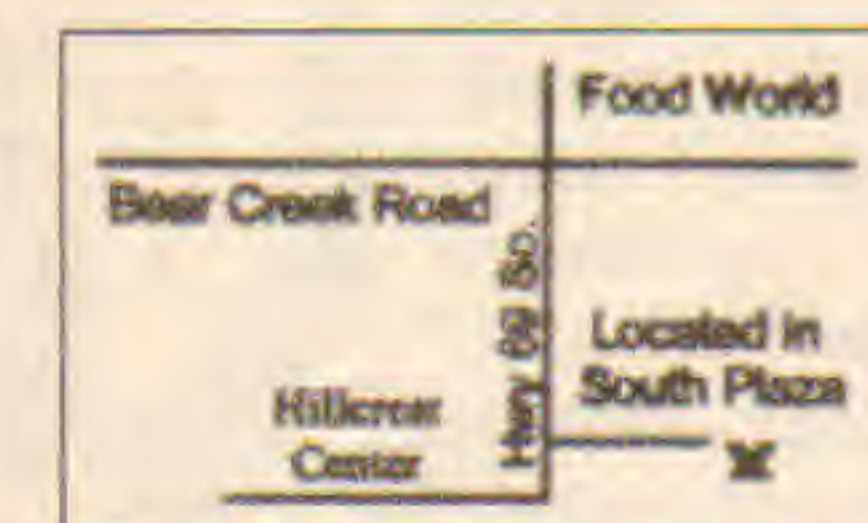
Shear Artistry



Ready to share their "shear artistry" are (Back L-R) Adrienne Gann, Sondra Keeton, Melonie Foley, (Front L-R) Ashley Lowery, Loran Kay Sewell.

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PTK honored at convention

The Shelton State Community College Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa received multiple honors at the Alabama Regional Convention held in Montgomery, Feb. 11-13.

Lindsey Thomas, who serves as student president of Shelton State's Alpha Epsilon Iota chapter, won the 2005 Leadership Hallmark award honoring her accomplishments.

Clair Brock, SSCC coordinator for PTK, said, "This is a very prestigious and difficult award to win. Lindsey will receive a full scholarship to the National Honors Institute to be held this summer at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas."

Thomas was also awarded the Order of the Golden Key as chapter president and on behalf of the members of Alpha Epsilon Iota, accepted

the bronze Pinnacle Award and the Five Star Award, the highest level a chapter can reach with PTK International.

"Five Star Awards signify that a chapter has reached the highest standards and participation in PTK," said Brock. "The Pinnacle Award indicates an increase in membership over the previous year."

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students.

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 1.5 million members and 1,200 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada, and Germany.

For more information on the Phi Theta Kappa, contact Claire Brock at 205/391-3918 or by email at cbrock@sheltonstate.edu.



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Audition call for *Steel Magnolias*

Auditions for *Steel Magnolias*, to be presented by Theatre Tuscaloosa have been scheduled for March 14 and 15 at 7 p.m. at the Bean-Brown Theatre.

Directed by Paul Looney, *Steel Magnolias* is the story of six soft-hearted "magnolias" with steely dispositions who gather regularly at Truvy's Beauty Salon, the unofficial hub of Chinquapin, La., to chitchat with, counsel, criticize and comfort one another.

The wise-cracking Truvy, with the help of her new glamour technician, Annelle, dispenses liberal doses of shampoo, hairspray, free advice and gossip to the town's rich curmudgeon, Ouiser, Miss Clairee, M'Lynn and her daughter, Shelby.

The play visits these women over the course of two years in which together they experience love, joy, pain, death and rebirth.

Roles are available for six

women ages 16 and up.

Persons auditioning will be asked to read from the script which has been placed on reserve in the Shelton State Community College Library and the main branch of the Tuscaloosa Library.

Steel Magnolias is scheduled to be presented April 22 - May 1 at the Bean-Brown Theatre.

For additional information call Theatre Tuscaloosa at 205-391-2277.

Johnson to play 'Yinnie'

Shelton alumna (and product of the Shelton State theatre department) Susie Johnson will play "Yinnie" in the prize winning play *Loose Hog in the House of God*.

The University of New Orleans Department of Drama and Communications will present the premiere performance of the play, which was the winner of the 2004 Festival One-Act Play Competition.

Loose Hog in the House of God is part of the 19th Annual

Tennessee Williams/ New Orleans Literary Festival being held March 30—April 3, 2005 in the French Quarter of New Orleans.

The festival is an annual five-day celebration held in late March, which showcases national and regional scholars, writers, and performing artists. Programs include panel discussions, theatrical performances, a one-act play competition, lectures, literary walking tours, musical performances, and a bookfair.

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